

# Industrial Worker

AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL

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CHICAGO, ILL., OCT., 1966 360

10¢

## Left Side

Maybe it was T-Bone Slim that said it first: "This labor shortage we hear so much about goes to prove that labor is always short of something. One thing it's short of is the wealth it produces. And it's short of guts in not resenting the fact."

You can believe this or not, suit yourself, but in my jaunt through So. Dakota on the way to Yakima, I saw women picking up bits of coal around coal sheds for their winter supply. The picking wasn't as good as it used to be.

In the shriveling little towns out that way they told me \$1 an hour was good pay and that in the winter season a man was lucky to get work at 50 cents an hour once in a while. In case it interests you, I am talking about white "natives". They tell me Indians are worse off, but they're hidden out of sight on reservations.

\* \* \*

On the way across the prairie I picked up a paper and read about the amendment to the Fair Labor Standards Act which Congress has passed. People I associate with (those who have heard about it) call it the Slave Labor Act. According to the amendment, steady hands on big farm jobs — about 400,000 of them all told — will be "covered" by the minimum wage law. Some cover! It provides for \$1.30 an hour by 1969 and stops there. Meanwhile these slaves are promised \$1 next year and raised to \$1.15 in 1968.

One honest reporter said of this new federal "standard" for wage slaves: "... in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas, for example, where extreme poverty is the lot of nearly every worker, the federal minimum will not have any effect, for there are very few farms large enough to come within the provisions of the law."

There are a lot of other such places, in industrial as well as farm areas. LBJ and the other politicians knew all about that when they threw this cynical insult at labor. But they will claim their vote for a phony wage bill entitles them to the support of labor in the next election.

\* \* \*

Down in Peru, South America, the native workers are so poor "they chew coca leaves with a lime-ball to produce an artificial gastric secretion which relieves their constant hunger." Over here, in this year of "unprecedented prosperity," in harvest

(Continued on page 2)

## 'TIME FOR ACTION,' SAYS IWW CONFERENCE

beyond wages. . .

iww proposes

labor-planned

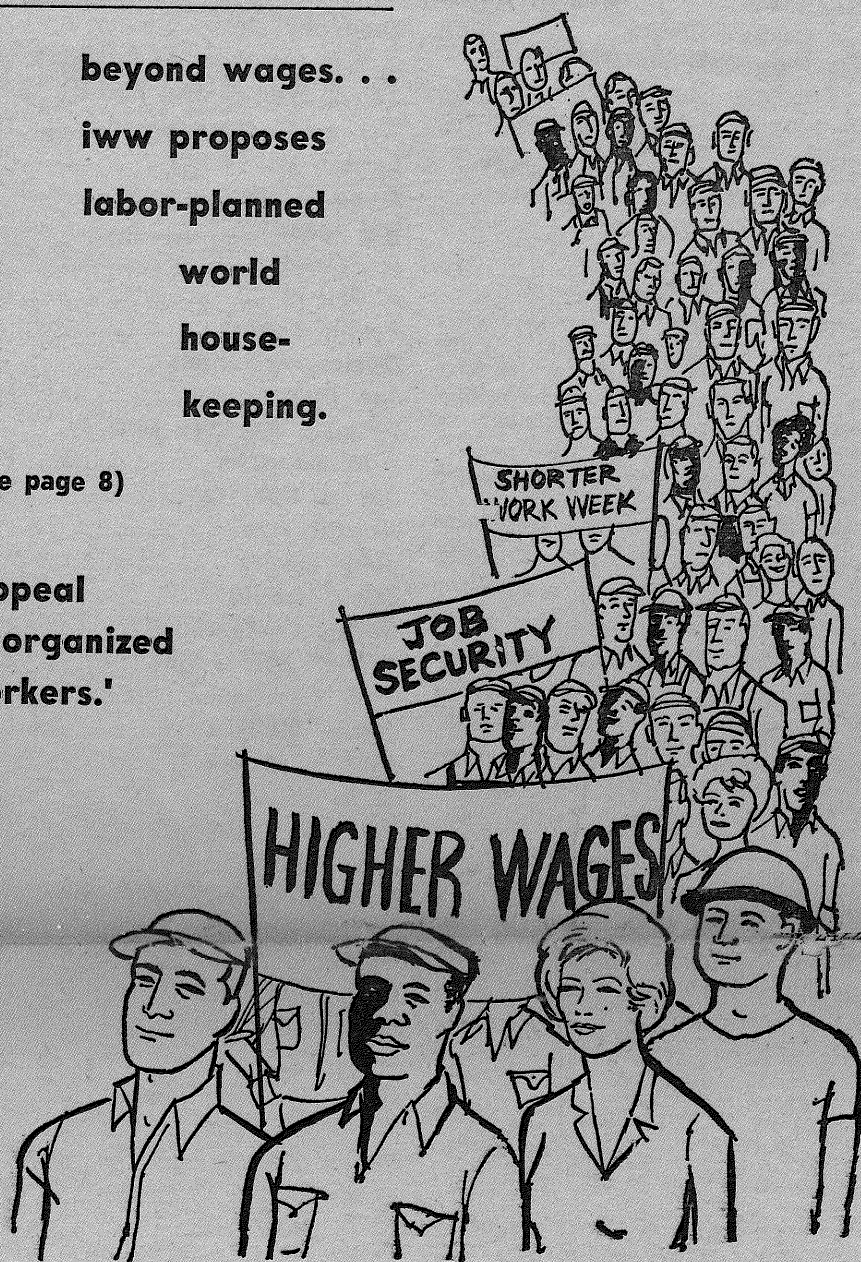
world

house-

keeping.

(See page 8)

'Appeal  
to organized  
workers.'



### Fruit Tramp's Complaint

We live in a one-room shack with holes in the floor  
rusty wood stove by the door  
we'd like to earn more  
but the Boss keeps us poor.

The table stands by the bed  
with crumbs on the sheet  
and soot on our feet  
we'd like steak to eat  
but the Boss owns the meat.

On the closet was never a door  
there's dust on our clothes  
and roaches, God knows  
we're paid with more woes  
by the Bosses—our foes.

Two windows are solid wood  
the glass ones are old  
and let in the cold  
while my labor is sold  
so the Boss can have gold.

The door is approximately there  
with a crack below  
and a gap like so  
I'd tell the Boss where to go  
but he holds my dough.

—Young Wob

### Boss Pilfering Costs Slaves Seven Million

The U.S. Labor Department's Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Division discovered over \$7,505,364 in minimum wage and overtime underpayments due to over 37,400 workers in Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota and Wisconsin, during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1966.

A lot is heard about the money workers are said to lose through strikes. Little is said about the loss to workers from the pocket-picking, purse-snatching, shop-lifting of employers.

Most of the violations discovered by the Department were under the air Labor Standards Act (Wage and Hour Law).

### IF WE DIDN'T NEED TO EAT

Whiskers to wife: "We could have retired now if we hadn't spent so much for food, clothing and rent."

### Convention Call Produces Lively Discussion Rally

Meeting in Chicago September 12, IWW members from East, West and Central states decided in a morning session that there was a pressing need for discussion and clarification of present and proposed activities that outweighed the need for consideration of constitutional or by-law changes suggested from time to time during the past year.

Accordingly, the meeting which was called to order as a regular Constitutional Convention, declined all legislative authority and re-named itself a General Conference of IWW members. As such it gave consideration to proposals as to what the IWW must do to make itself a more powerful influence in the current struggles of our class to free the world from domination by exploiters, reactionaries and imperialists. Means to membership growth was one of the chief topics of discussion.

It was pointed out, in a report by Fred Thompson, that there are great numbers of People who, though they may not be in position to share in the strictly labor union activities of the IWW, accept its views and can be enlisted in the fight of the IWW for a better world. Of this group Thompson said:

"The large number who have joined one or another left wing effort for at least a month or two sometime in their lives is proof in this scissorbill world that a large number of people have seen some light, experienced some vision, and had some hope for the Cooperative Commonwealth or a reasonable facsimile thereof; and these people, wherever they are, may yet prove to be a large uncounted IWW resource."

Jonathan Leake, one of three members present from the New York branch, proposed greater participation of the IWW in some phases of the Negro struggle for civil rights. Leake's argument was countered with reminders that the IWW is a working class movement which rejects race, creed and nationality as bases for labor organization; and that, on the other hand, the most militant of the Negro movements insists on race solidarity and is itself a conglomerate of economic classes en-

(Continued on page 3)



"An Injury to One Is an Injury to All" • One Union One Label One Enemy

# Industrial Worker



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CARL KELLER, General Secretary-Treasurer

W. H. Westman, Business Manager

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## Left Side

(Continued from page 1)

land where all the food comes from, "the big ones are eating the little ones and the little ones eat each other."

The bosses did it with their propaganda about a big crop and a labor shortage.

Apple picking got under way in the lower Yakima valley, the pay suddenly settled down to the level of 20 years ago. I suppose you have heard about the "hidden unemployment" in the U.S. Well, it has come right out into the open here in this valley. As one fellow worker put it, "the farmers aimed at getting a picker for every tree and they damn near made it."

At the recent Steel Workers Convention it was declared that a basic need of labor is a shorter work week and that's the absolute truth. It was also asserted there that workers' incomes deserve the guarantee and continuity that managerial salaries possess." Who will say it isn't so?

\* \* \*

When "demonstrations" get police and National Guard protection they have lost whatever value they may have had for any kind of left movement.

\* \* \*

Shorter hours, better pay, more jobs are the remedies for slums and slum living conditions. The wrong people control too much of the nation's spending money.

—Mike McQuirk

## A Picker For Every Tree

I had nothing better to do today (being out of work, since all the jobs seem to be taken), so I glanced over an article about the "acute labor shortage" here in the Yakima Valley.

It seems the growers are making a nation-wide plea for 30,000 pickers to harvest their bumper crop of apples. I read their statistics about the 6.6 million dollars they expect to pay in wages, and how the "average" picker could expect to earn 20 to 25 dollars a day during the five week season.

So I did a bit of calculating, and came to the conclusion that if they did succeed in drawing 30,000 pickers to the area, the average picker could expect to work 8.8 to 11 days (out of 35) and earn 220 dollars for his trouble. And, there will be approximately 3 workers for every job!!! (Just this week, the representatives for this district (Catherine May) has suggested that the job corps be recruited to further aid in the harvest.)

The purpose of this over-loading of the labor market appears

to be to bring down the price of picking—after all, if the growers can import a picker for every tree, they can pay what they wish knowing that if a picker doesn't want to work at a slave-wage, there will be 5 or 6 just waiting for his job.

This is already evident in the first few days of the season — growers are offering as low as 3 dollars a bin for 28 and 32 box bins (that's 9 to 10 cents a box, and they paid 12 cents a box 20 years ago!!!) With prices rising as they are, fruit pickers (traditionally among the poorest of the poor to begin with) simply cannot afford to have their salaries cut, on the pretense that it is "good for the state's economy."

It is not good for the pickers, who do most of the work to bring in the 100 million dollars the state expects to add to its economy. It only illustrates Bill Haywood's point that, "If one man has a dollar he didn't work for, then some other man worked for a dollar he hasn't got."

Amy Acheson

## Industrial Worker Fund Drive

Because of the bad showing in our Industrial Worker sustaining fund appeal, which to date September 23 stands at \$1,311.00 it is necessary to extend the fund drive through the month of October. It is hoped that we can and will receive enough contributions to reach our goal of \$3,000, which is absolutely needed to carry the paper through for the coming year without missing any issues.

The response to date to our appeal has been gratifying and better than in past years in the number of donors, but many past generous supporters haven't as yet been heard from. We hope that all will do their part, to help bring up the fund total to the needed \$3,000 by the end of October. — Business Manager

James Bassak and Family	\$25.00	Luther Anderson	1.00
George C. Underwood	10.00	Roy Anderson	1.00
Ernest Holmberg	20.00	Evert Anderson	10.00
Anna Smith	2.00	W. C. Webber	5.00
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A Friend	5.00		
Lloyd Jones	3.00		
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		TOTAL	\$ 605.50
		Previously acknowledged	706.00
		Grand Total	\$1,311.50

## Preamble

• THE WORKING CLASS and the employing class have nothing in common. There can be no peace so long as hunger and want are found among millions of working people and the few, who make up the employing class, have all the good things of life.

Between these two classes a struggle must go on until the workers of the world organize as a class, take possession of the earth and the machinery of production, and abolish the wage system.

We find that the centering of management of the industries into fewer and fewer hands makes the trade unions unable to cope with the ever-growing power of the employing class. The trade unions foster a state of affairs which allows one set of workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping defeat one another in wage wars. Moreover, the trade unions aid the employing class to mislead the workers into the belief that the working class have interests in common with their employers.

These conditions can be changed and the interest of the working class upheld only by an organization formed in such a way that all its members in any one industry, or in all industries if necessary, cease work whenever a strike or lockout is on in any department thereof, thus making an injury to one an injury to all.

Instead of the conservative motto, "A fair day's wage for a fair day's work," we must inscribe on our banner the revolutionary watchword, "Abolition of the wage system."

• IT IS THE HISTORIC MISSION OF THE WORKING CLASS to do away with capitalism. The army of production must be organized, not only for the every-day struggle with capitalists, but also to carry on production when capitalism shall have been overthrown. By organizing industrially we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old.



## OFFICIAL NOTICES

## BRANCH MEETINGS

**HOUSTON, Texas.** — Robert (Blackie) Vaughan is the acting Secretary of the Houston I.U. 510 branch. All communications intended for the branch should be addressed to him at 7505 Navigation Blvd., Houston, Tex. 77011.

\* \* \*

**SAN FRANCISCO.** — Michael Brown, 26 Prospect Avenue, San Francisco, Calif. 94110, is acting secretary for the branch pending decision on the opening of a new branch office.

\* \* \*

**BERKELEY, Cali.** — For information about meetings, socials, and other activities contact Robert Rush, Secretary, 1723 10th St., Telephone: 524-1989.

\* \* \*

**DULUTH, Minn.** — Write to Pat McMillan, Stationary Delegate, P.O. Box 559 for information and contacts.

\* \* \*

**CHICAGO** branch general membership meetings are now being held on the first Friday of the month at 2422 N. Halsted Street. W. H. Westman, Secretary.

\* \* \*

**NEW YORK CITY.**—The mailing address of the GRU branch is 539 E. 11th St., Apt. 1-E. The branch office is at 641 E. 9th St., in the Torch Book Store.—Walter Caughey, Secretary.

\* \* \*

**YAKIMA, Wash.** — For information about work and organization opportunities in the fruit and farm areas of Eastern Washington, get in touch with George C. Underwood, 102 South 3rd Ave., telephone GLencourt 3-2046.

\* \* \*

**LOS ANGELES, Calif.** — IWW Stationary Delegate, P.O. Box 46583, Los Angeles; or call EX 88110.

## Time for Action

(Continued from Page 1)

tirely incompatible with a genuine labor movement. There was no consensus reached on this question and it was dropped by the Conference.

The Conference took some time to discuss the IWW position on war and the current war in Viet Nam. No new resolutions on this subject were offered but there was discussion on a proposal, contained in GEB Member Thompson's report, "to send a letter to all major labor organizations throughout the world urging (among other things) that the labor movement should make some collective effort to do something more basic for peace than can be expected from diplomats."

The proposed letter was ordered included in the Conference minutes for study by the membership, and for possible further action. It appears also elsewhere in this paper.

The greater part of the Conference discussion was centered on the basic problem of IWW organization in industry. Projects now under way were reviewed and plans for expanding the scope of on-the-job action were proposed and discussed.

The need for growth was stressed in the Gen. Secretary-Treasurer's report and no one disagreed with his assertion that sideline successes can not make up for failure to press forward with job organization; that, in fact, firm roots in industry are essential to any "left" movement that hopes to break the stranglehold of exploiters on the political, social and economic affairs of mankind.

Many suggestions were made for expansion of the IWW among the unorganized workers of the nation. Special attention was given to present prospects in Yakima and other fruit-producing areas of the Northwest.

Possibilities of organizing farm

workers in New York state with the aid of some of the revolutionary talent regularly congregated in New York City were earnestly brought to the attention of the conference by men who had already made preliminary explorations in that field.

Similar proposals were made for organizing in farm districts not far from Chicago where, just as in many other big cities, revolutionary fantasy flies high in coffee shops while the real potential of labor revolt lies largely uncultivated.

When the Conference adjourned late in the evening, it was felt by all present that progress had been made and that the record of the Conference, to be published in a bulletin for the membership, will serve to stimulate further thought on what is good for the IWW and, of course, good for the working class.

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Managing Editor (Name and address) W. H. Westman, Business Mgr., 2422 N. Halsted St., Chicago, Ill. 60614.
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for Freedom???

And unless we want this process of letting this country go Nazi continue we had better provide more open forums, and all of us practice a little more equality.

Yours for a Better World

Slim Brundage, janitor

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## MIGRANT IN A GONDOLA

Brakeman: "You gotta hit the dirt, man! No bums can ride my train."

Migrant: "Last year when I was riding this train two brakemen came along and they told me I could ride anytime I wanted to. Do you own this railroad now?"

Wars are not an effective way of cutting down population.

## Need More Forums, Says Slim

Fifteen years ago when the Communists spoke at the College of Complexes I stated that this was a Fascist country. Every Commie in the country had two FBI agents tailing him day and night. Even their brats came in for some surveillance. Eleven million Americans had just come back from making the world safe against Fascism. But no agents were following them around.

Today I read a story by William McGaffin from Washington, headed, "WON'T INTERVENE HERE." It goes on, "... the American Nazi party never has been on the attorney general's list of subversive organizations."

But the Wobblies, which I used to belong to, are still on it. They never in all their sixty years were accused of being agents of a for-

eign power. They were never even accused of trying to put this government out of business. The only business they ever claimed to be in was putting the Capitalists out of business. And who besides the Plutocrats don't want to do the same?

A couple of months ago the Industrial Workers of the World (Wobblies) asked the federal court to take them off the subversive list. Last week the American Nazi Party published a paper exhorting the good American's to go out and kill "Black scum." But our good government refuses to take the non-subversive Wobblies off the list or put the avowed hate mongers on.

This is the same government that wants to make my boy go half way round the world to fight



## Record Review

## VIVA LA CAUSA: CAMPESINOS SING OF REVOLUTION

By CARLOS CORTEZ

Songs and sounds from the Delano Strike por los Huelguistas de Delano y el Teatro Campesino. Thunderbird Record TR00001 \$4.25. Thunderbird Records, Box 1060, Delano, California.

Q: "What do you call a three-foot Mexican with a four-foot machete?"

A: "Señor!"

If there is any question as to why your reviewer chooses to open up a record review with his variation of a current racial joke, it is because that said reviewer, not without a little bit of racial pride, wants it to be known that another minority group is standing up on its own two feet to battle for those comforts that have long been taken for granted by many main-stream Americans.

The record is devoted to the long and still ensuing struggle of the agricultural workers in the vicinity of Delano, California for decent living and working conditions in the face of the opposition of the powerful fruit-growing interests that have long been entrenched there.

While the validity of making contracts between employers and labor has been much discussed in this paper and despite the fact that your reviewer would much rather see these strikers line up in the IWW than in the AFL-CIO, this record stands out as a moving document of labor struggle and as such merits the attention of those who identify with the revolutionary aspects of such a struggle. As one who long identified himself with revolutionary industrial unionism, this reviewer is more than heartened to see a group of workers in this day and age who are not afraid to call their struggle a revolutionary one but proudly identify themselves with their revolutionary antecedents.

Despite the fact that this strike in Delano is composed not only of Mexican workers but Filipinos, Negros and poor Whites as well, it is because of the preponderance of the former group the movement remains essentially Mexican in character and identifies itself with the Mexican revolution, especially the Agrarista Movement of Emiliano Zapata. Therefore the songs on the first side of the record are all in Spanish with the unique flavor of the Mexican folk idiom.

During the long history of the strike, a group of strikers decided that the aims of the strike should be dramatized not only to those who were directly involved in the strike, but also to propagandize to sympathizers and those who had not as yet joined the struggle.

By means of humorous skits and dramatizations as well as songs this traveling troupe has

been dramatizing the daily reality of the day to day struggle of the strikers' lives with a compelling beauty.

This troupe is known as el Teatro Campesino or theatre of the Farm Worker and it is members of this troupe who are heard along with audience participation on the first side of this record.

Aside from Adelita, the traditional song of the Mexican Revolution and De Colores, a traditional Mexican hymn, all the songs have been composed especially for the strike. Such titles as Viva La Huelga (Long Live The Strike), Corrido De Cesar Chavez, Yo No Tengo Miedo A Nada (I Have Fear Of Nothing), Ser Como El Aire Libre (To Be Free Like The Air), are but a small indication of the revolutionary fervor of these songs.

The lyrics of these songs are in the tradition of folk balladry and as such are very topical and biting, taking strong digs at those who have been imported from out of state to scab, but at the same time not without a certain amount of sympathy for those whose living standard is so low that they can be exploited as scabs.

The most biting digs are reserved for the bosses and the contractors and though the struggle has been a long and bitter one, there is more candor than bitterness reflected in these songs.

Unfortunately for those who are not familiar with the Spanish language there are no translations of the texts of these songs in the liner notes of this album but it is hoped that the revolutionary spirit in which the songs are rendered will transcend the language barrier to those who are truly interested in the creative phase of a Workers' struggle.

It is indeed a moving thing to listen to a hall full of strikers

who have been living on short rations lifting their voices in song and not knowing just when they will be getting back to a steady meal ticket but nevertheless full of hope and the candid humor that is characteristic of the Mexican folk idiom.

For those who are aficionados of the guitar and south-of-the-border type singing, this record will undoubtedly be a much desired addition to their music library.

The second side of the record is composed of on-the-spot recordings made along the 300-mile march to Sacramento earlier this year passing through the many farm-worker settlements of the otherwise prosperous San Joaquin Valley not only to bring their case to the state capital but to get support along the way, resulting in the spread of the movement.

Here the liner notes are printed in both Spanish and English which more than enhances its value as a labor document to those who do not happen to be bilingual. This consists in the main of strikers telling of their personal reasons for being in the strike and on the march.

The Filipino tells of his long years of working for miserable pay as does the old Negro who no longer can work in regular industry, of how the farm worker is but a machine and the emptiness of the slogan "You are lucky when you live in America" to the agricultural worker. The Mexican wonders how one can feed and educate his kids on what the growers pay their labor and the young girl feels that her aching feet are for a good cause.

Between the interviews there are snatches of songs by the marching strikers along with such marching music as accordion, drums and guitars which

while being very un-martial is nevertheless very Mexican.

Among the songs sung on this side is a Spanish version of Solidarity Forever which merits reprinting here.

"Vamos, vamos campesinos  
Los derechos a pelear  
Con el corazon en alto  
Y con fe en Unidad  
Que la fuerza de los pobres  
Como las olas del mar  
La injusticia va inundar!

SOLIDARIDAD PARA  
SIEMPRE — — — —"

"Let us go, Fellow Workers  
Our rights for to fight  
With faith in Unionism  
And our hearts on great height  
That the force of the exploited  
Like the mighty ocean waves  
Will injustice inundate!

SOLIDARITY FOREVER —"

The record ends with a reading to a hall full of farm workers of the now classic "Plan De Delano" which in the Spanish that is spoken by the Mexican race is a reading of poetic quality as well as a well-made statement of principles that pales such documents as the Declaration of Independence by comparison. A very good translation of this speech is found in the accompanying notes of which a very short excerpt is reproduced here:

"We are sons of the Mexican Revolution, a revolution seeking bread and justice. Our revolution will not be armed, but we want the existing social order to dissolve; we want a new social order — We do not want the paternalism of the rancher; we do not want the contractor; we do not want charity at the price of our dignity — Across the San Joaquin Valley, across California, across the entire Southwest of the United States, wherever there are Mexican people, wherever there are farm workers, our movement is spreading like flames across a dry plain!"

## NEW POETRY BOOK

Poets of the Artists, and Musicians' Union (a section of the Berkeley GRU) have published an anthology of their work.

"Poems Read in the Spirit of Peace and Gladness" mostly come from readings at the San Francisco IWW hall during 1965. The book costs \$2 from Peace & Gladness Co-op Press, 2920 Harper, Berkeley, Calif. — Jefferson Poland.

Fifty-seven varieties of movements are pulling self-proclaimed revolutionaries in 57 different directions. Meanwhile the employers are stealing the shirt off labor's back. Capitalists never had it so good.

## WHY IS THIS?

When the land is full of workers, busy hands and active brains,  
When the Craftsmen and the thinkers feel about them bonding-chains,

When the laborer is cheated of the worth his hands have wrought,  
And the thinker vain of logic, sees the reason come to naught;  
When the forces men have harnessed and have trained to do their will,  
Ought to leave no homeless people and no hungry mouths to fill,  
Have but proved themselves the servants of the shrewd and selfish few,  
And the many have but little for the work they find to do.

When the labor of a million goes to swell the gains of one,  
As the serfs of ancient Egypt starved beneath the burning sun;  
When the schemer and the sharper hold the wealth and rule the land,  
Using up the thinker's brain and force, mortgaging the craftsman's hand;

When the many sheer the sheep and the few secure the wool,  
and the gallows claim its victims and your costly jails are full,  
Then the men who dreamed of progress and the hopes of peace  
and bliss,

While they weep and wonder vainly, ask each other, "Why is this?"

Then the thinker while confessing that his vision yet is dim,  
Says that one thing very clearly is apparent unto him,

That the people blind or heedless place themselves beneath the rule  
Either of the fiendish knave, or worse, perhaps, the sodden fool.

N. P. WILLIS, 1806-1867



## MARCOS CALLS FOR BLOOD MONEY

## REVIVED HUKS LEAD REVOLT OF PHILIPPINE POOR

President Marcos made his September trip to Washington shortly after he had sent a contingent of 2,000 combat engineers to Viet Nam. The folks around the Pentagon were right glad to meet someone from Asia who said he wanted to help them, and no doubt they have arranged to do handsomely by him. He faced much opposition to sending those combat forces.

As Marcos himself explained, it was at the cost of food for the Filipinos. Demonstrations at Clark Air Force Base show it went beyond that. Without pressure, and at a real personal sacrifice, Filipinos have sent dried fish and rubber boots and used clothes and nurses to help the distressed civilians of a war-torn land, but they did not want to help kill more people there.

Marcos says he wants help to crush smuggling and government graft. He also wants to smash the pro-Peking Huks who are said to have grown annoyingly strong in the provinces of Tarlac and Pampanga dangerously close to Manila, and the site of the 157,000 acre Clark Air Force Base.

These Huks seem to come back like a cat with many lives. Soon after the war was over we heard that here was one country where land reform was for real. The customary tale, as repeated for instance in the current National Geographic which features an article on the Philippines, ran that Magsaysay shot the communists, arrested the Huk leadership, and induced the rest to surrender by offering them land in the great southern island of Mindanao. Recent press items say that all these gains were lost during the era of Marcos' predecessor, Macapagal.

As late as this March, Alex Campbell, writing on the spot for the New Republic, reported: "The once feared Huks consist of about 150 small-time bandits and hoodlums who may count on about 5,000 people to give them shelter and a meal if in need."

The only item about the Huks indexed in New York Times for a long period was Marcos's request of June 30 for Seato aid against Hukbalahap guerillas. Then on August 25, Albert Ravenholt reported from Manila that the Huks were a power again: "One informed Filipino leader estimates there are roughly a thousand committed cadres with upwards of 20,000 to 25,000 in a more or less mobilized popular base."

How did the Huks grow again so fast?

The Ravenholt report indicated the answer might be in the adroit development of communication facilities of different sorts. They were said to have gone into the business of operating the "jeeps," the re-built jeeps that serve as buses for the less privileged. They had also organized

"rondallas," or bands of wandering minstrels who played for their supper. Both these organizations enable the Huks to learn what is afoot, get out their own message, and offer a confidential line of communications if wanted. The latest report contends they have financed these enterprises by creating terror among the ranchers, then offering them protection against rustlers for a payoff. Another explanation is that they got rich by controlling the rice threshing business.

For a more basic explanation consider some of the figures given by Campbell in his New Republic Article March 12. "Three per cent of the population still own 98 per cent of the land in spite of brave sounding programs like EDCOR (Economic Development Corps) and SPREAD (Systematic Program for Economic Assistance and Development)."

In a labor force of only ten million, two million are steadily unemployed. The Philippines comprise over 7000 islands with 32,600,000 people who speak over 80 languages, English now being the chief tongue.

There is a university that boasts that with its exchange students it teaches democracy to Asia; but for the home market 150,000 graduate each year into the ranks of Filipino unemployed. Keen nationalism is nourished by this economic fact.

The jobless college students complain that though the Filipinos helped America defeat Japan, since the war America has helped restore the economic supremacy of Japan. Despite a wide world labor shortage, unemployment stalks the island republic.

Some recall that the full and original name for the Huks was Hukbang Bayan Laban sa Hapon, or Peoples Army to Fight the Japanese. Its current name is Hukbo Magpagpalayang Bayan, or People's Liberation Army.

Concentrated ownership of 98 per cent of the land in the hands of 3 per cent of the people has not meant efficient land use. No land in Asia produces so little rice per acre. On the same acreage, Japan raises enough rice to feed a hundred million people.

One class struggle oddity mentioned by Campbell and confirmed by all accounts, is that the daily papers are somewhat leftist, with the most anti-American papers owned by the wealthiest native capitalists.

One current contest between American and native capitalists runs over nationality of business enterprises. The law considers the 400,000 Chinese all alien, and will not permit them in retail trade, so each marries a Filipino wife and under her name runs his corner grocery. Until 1974 American and Filipino enterprises stand on equal legal footing.

But American concerns may be hit by a court ruling that if even one non-American owns a share in an allegedly American company it cannot qualify to do business in the Philippines. The Filipino business class that owns the land and the papers and the jobs wants American capital to keep hands off a juicy thing, but does not want to pay over \$50 a month for wages.

These Huk wandering minstrels have lots to sing about, and it isn't all about American imperialists, or the love life of the 16,000

American sailors on shore leave, or Viet Nam. Some of it is about their native parasites who don't mind American intervention to get rid of those Hukbo Magpagpalayang Bayan . . . and all guitar players take notice. — —FT

## Pepping Up New Car Sales

EVERETT E. LUOMA

The auto industry has instructed its ad agencies to change the emphasis in advertising to how safe cars supposedly are. Tire makers have joined the campaign.

As everyone is aware, acceleration, power and speed have long been the principal points for selling automobiles. Every year an effort has been made to make the past year's models appear obsolete compared with the new models. At the same time, producers always argued that they were forced to emphasize power and speed because that was what the public wanted.

Because of the present extended boom, this policy eventually accrued difficulties. Automobile business growth was threatened because not even the best advertising experts were able to make the autos obsolete fast enough.

Business recognized that a change in policy was required. Business knew also that it could create a new "need" just as it had created the "need" for bigger and faster autos.

The image began to be pushed among the general public that the autos of the past were not safe. (The view that Ralph Nader was selected to promote this image, may or may not be correct. But it is certain that his book, "Unsafe at any Speed," appeared at a most opportune time to furnish auto manufacturers and advertisers with fresh arguments to pressure car owners to junk their old heaps and buy new SAFE models.)

## Bread Line

Like cattle at the pasture gate,  
They humbly wait, they

humbly wait,  
Until their masters give a call  
Or send their henchmen out  
to bawl.

When the burden becomes too  
great,

They will wreck the hated gate.  
They will not humbly wait  
and wait

For circumstances or kindly fate.  
Lucia Morse Rimbach

Some "revolutionary" programs seem to have been tailored expressly to keep workers OUT of a revolutionary labor movement.

\* \* \*

If you want to see the forces of labor United instead of divided, join the IWW and plug for One Big Union.

## NOT ON MONDAY

Equality is the very essence of social justice. Its absence is an offering of Christianity without the Christ, or wine without the grape.

Free enterprise tells the tall tale of equality of opportunity, a hollow mockery, indeed.

Does the black child of Watts, or the white one of Appalachia, have opportunity comparable to that of the Kennedy or Johnson clan?

In reality, the rich and the prosperous want **inequality** all along the line. It is their stock in trade. They could not keep shop without it. Jungle law is the order of the day where they hold forth. Does the lion share his kill with the jackal? Not until he has had his fill.

The lords and ladies of our New World sport no titles; they have no landed estates, and bend no knee to high potentates. Yet they wield power greater than that of an emperor's nobility in the days of old, for they control the new American empire that extends around the world. Money and guns hold the line for them on a vast front. It is a shady realm of the Almighty Dollar, where the rich live in luxury and the poor starve by the millions.

Equality, social justice, democracy, all social values find poor nourishment in the American social system.

It were idle to speculate on the virtues of brotherhood in a world where a millionaire is blessed with a term in high political office, and a pauper is cursed with life in a slum. Who is like a brother when the quality of man is denied?

America is a place where a Dollar is in serious competition with a God. A brother has no keeper here. Brotherly love is for Sunday's performance, not for the market place on Monday. Here the Dollar is king.

Jefferson said that all men are born equal. We may grant that, but in the life that follows we surely do not find equality. Only in death do we come into that equality which we had at birth. —J. F. McDaniels



## "A WILLING HORSE IS WORKED TO DEATH"

# BUT NURSES BALK AT OVERWORK, LOW PAY

When it came to a showdown it wasn't too difficult for registered nurses in Chicago's Cook County Hospital to get the raise they had been talking about for years. All it took was solidarity.

Confronted with the threat of mass resignations, hospital authorities and the County Board approved wage increases of from \$90 to \$210 a month. The raise became effective at once in mid-September and it was agreed that if after December 1 the shortage of nurses continued there would be an additional raise of \$25 a month for beginning nurses at the hospital.

The showdown came after 380 of the 400 registered nurses employed at the hospital turned in individual resignations, effective October 9 if an acceptable wage raise was not granted by that date.

The new scale provides for a starting wage of \$545 a month for registered nurses. It provides for an additional \$75 monthly for the evening shift and \$60 extra for the night shift. Under the new arrangement "any nurse assigned to an area other than her normal work assignment" will be paid \$3 a day in addition to her regular pay.

For some reason not clear to the reporter, the 325 foreign exchange nurses on the job will get a raise of only \$30 a month.

Discontent over low pay and bad working conditions among hospital nurses is nation wide. It broke out into open revolt in New York City's 21 public hospitals last May and continued in other hospitals in July. Nurses in Massachusetts General (Boston) protested against a wage as low as \$96 a week for recovery-room duty.

In the San Francisco Bay area one instance of mass resignation, meetings and much publicity have warned the public, politicians and hospital administrators that the nurses will not continue indefinitely to work for the prevailing low salaries or tolerate the difficult conditions needlessly imposed on them. An Industrial Worker correspondent writes from Oakland:

"A big meeting was held in the Oakland Auditorium where the nurses agreed (with strong opposition) to go back to work with a lower wage increase than they had asked for and with only a part of their 35 demands granted.

"This is the situation now: the California Nurses Association and the Hospital Administration are sharing expenses of a fact finding board which is to report its findings December 1.

"In the meantime, the 90 nurses of Eden Township Hospital who resigned en masse returned to their jobs at an interim salary range of \$505 to \$663 a month."

Before the mass resignation at Eden — which hospital authorities there said was the first time in history this tactic had been employed by nurses — beginners' pay was \$420 a month. They were asking \$664 a month for beginners with a top of \$900 for those with 10 or more years experience.

That wages of nurses have long been astonishingly low as compared, for instance, with school teachers and secretarial workers is recognized by everyone who has studied the problems of the nursing profession. The American Nurses' Assn. reports the average national wage of nurses is only about \$90 a week.

Fresh out of high school a girl can, with six months of additional secretarial training, step into a job paying a higher wage. Meanwhile the girl intending to become a nurse has to continue with two to four years of further study — an average of three years more of schooling before she can begin to draw wages. Besides the time spent, she has to dig up, on an average, \$1,500 to qualify for her lower paying job. Most teachers manage to start with at least a \$125 a week wage.

From many accounts recently published about work conditions in U.S. hospitals one may justly conclude that the reason nurses have been left so far behind in the matter of compensation for their labor is that they have been kept too busy to do a little thinking for themselves, and too busy to organize.

In marked contrast to the doctors, nurses haven't taken time to shed the naive notion that "service to humanity" is its own reward; and that organization for higher pay in an aggressive un-

ion is in some way inappropriate to their honored profession. This notion has been carefully cultivated by their employers and by the lackey press. Take a look at editorials appearing even now which almost uniformly condemn mass resignations and blast the very thought that nurses can go on strike.

One result of allowing "honors" to substitute in part for pork-chops; that is to say, for adequate pay for work, has been to keep girls from entering the nursing profession.

The U.S. Public Health Service estimates that by 1976 there will be 850,000 nursing jobs in the nation and only 680,000 nurses to fill them.

Today, nursing and other hospital work is one of the areas pointed to by proponents of the theory that there are tens of thousands of jobs going begging for want of trained workers to take them; and that unemployment can be eliminated by training people for jobs.

As in other such areas, there will be plenty of takers for these orphan jobs, for which too few people are now prepared, when the compensation has been raised to a more attractive level. Economic law in this field operates with remarkable precision.

The public pays taxes to support hospitals, rich people occasionally make contributions and patients pay their bills. But the entire hospital operation is being subsidized by workers — nurses, orderlies and other help — when they work for less than a decent wage. It seems that at long last these over-exploited workers are waking up. More power to them, says the IWW.

## Rail Strike Scuttled

The recent Canadian national railroad strike lasted 12 days. It involved 120,000 members of 16 rail unions. It was ended by a strikebreaking law passed by a special session of the Canadian parliament.

The settlement gave workers an 18 per cent raise, over a four year period. Shopmen had asked a 40 per cent pay boost plus improved conditions.

The fink law which ended the strike calls for further negotiations. If no agreement is reached by Nov. 15, the issues must be settled by compulsory arbitration.

Some slaves say: "We need to elect more labor-minded legislators." Others contend: "More aggressive unionism is needed to test the law and the issues on the industrial battle front."

**Get your IWW stickers from Headquarters. A packet of these silent agitators for 50 cents.**

## JOE HILL HOUSE IN NEW LOCATION

New location of Joe Hill House, Salt Lake City, is at 3462 So. 4 W, which is two blocks south of the huge Vitro smoke stack, and not far from the Rio Grande Roper yards. We are on the west side of the Rio Grande tracks. Those coming from downtown take the State Street bus south to 33rd, walk four blocks west to 4th and two blocks south, where we are at the end of a long junk yard of used cars.

We opened on August 19th with the showing of the CBC film on Joe Hill. Al, an old time Wob, is helping me. The house is on five acres and has a fireplace. We have the Industrial Worker.

**Ammon Hennacy**

## The World Market

# If we're Headed for Depression . . . Let's Enjoy it!

By FRED THOMPSON

In the booming world economy of recent years people from all lands and their products have been intermingled as never before. Workers from the Nile have filled labor shortages in the Ruhr. Foreign cars roll along Detroit's Edsel Ford Expressway. Oil goes to New Castle. Japanese reinforcing bars were used to prepare a site for a new steel mill in USA. Imported transistors, typewriters, cameras, clothes, dishes crowd American stores. The products of Chrysler, General Motors, General Electric and U.S. Rubber crop up everywhere. The plants of these corporations rise on every continent.

This internationalization of capital has moved ahead so rapidly that the business-dominated National Industrial Conference Board reported in mid-September that in the near future:

"Companies with serious foreign interests will no longer think or act as if United States were 'home' and other countries were 'abroad' but will view the whole world as home."

Recently we hear warnings of boom-and-bust from industrial magnates in Germany, England and America. They speak as though the pump we once primed for them has pumped so well that it now sucks air. We may soon hear lamentations about the number of imported items in stores. The jobless forget that exports require imports, that from here more goes out than comes in, and that there are "foreign" goods in markets everywhere because everywhere production has been for a world market. If the market collapses it will collapse throughout the world of production-for-sale.

While the boom is still with us, we should give some advance consideration to possible solutions for these recurring crises. Our past should have taught us the folly of seeking any nationalistic solution. The technical and economic facts restrict us to solutions premised on this fact of a world market.

If this boom busts, we have more to fear than the loss of a job. It will prod the unthinking toward fascism. Economists will recall how Hjalmar Horace Greeley Schacht squeezed advantages out of Hitler's economy. The world market had collapsed; goods could not be sold abroad and consequently need imports could not be purchased. Schacht reverted partly to barter, but even more to the complex deals that only a totalitarian economy could make, trading at losses if it secured the

(Continued on next page)



## Black Power: No Black Magic

"Integration always implies that white culture is superior to Negro culture," remonstrated a disgruntled Negro in Watts. "Whites are so damned generous in offering to share their society on their terms. I'd like to know just what's so attractive about Caucasian society, with its ruthless economics and its Viet Nams. Why aren't these white liberals willing to accept my people's culture on our own terms?"

Black Power has different meanings for different segments of the Negro population. To the full-fledged Nationalist, it invites expectations of a Negro homeland founded in a separate political state on American soil. To other extremists, it means economic, political, and perhaps social domination of Caucasians within the old society. To settle old scores, say these Nationalists, the best jobs and the top political offices everywhere must go to Negroes.

SNCC leaders, on the other hand, appear to envision only an equitable balance of political power. Local and state areas with a Negro majority must be governed by this majority, they insist. And they don't need part-time summer help from students to do the job, thank you. The active years since the Freedom Rides have matured Negroes to the point where they are capable of running their own affairs.

To paraphrase Marx, "The task of organizing the Negroes is the job of the Negroes themselves."

Sympathetic Caucasians find much to commend in this brave spirit of Negro independence. Some of us wonder, however, in what way the new black politics would differ from older corrupt forms. We are skeptical that a history of abuse prepares a people for sound economic understanding, or that the balancing of the scales of justice necessarily converts them into equitable men. We have listened long and attentively to exponents of Black Power without enlightenment on how poverty and war would be wiped out under the new arrangement.

A fourth interpretation of Black Power merely reflects ill-defined pride in race, reenforced by a more or less aggressive determination to run one's own life.

"Just because I'm pro-Negro doesn't mean I'm anti-white," one woman pointed out.

An angry young man exclaimed, "The white man dressed me in clothes, gave me religion, and taught me to read. Then he wondered what's the matter with me when I wasn't satisfied. The trouble with me is that I want just what he wants, because I'm just as human as he is. — Only, I demand the very best of what he's got, at least until the score's been evened between us."

A literate, soft-spoken Negro added, "I did everything I could

think of to make myself acceptable to the white man. I came up out of the South, put on middle-class clothes, got a white-collar job, sent my children to college, voted, joined all the 'right' organizations where I was allowed, was true to my wife, and took extra care never to get into trouble with the law. But the white man still didn't like me. So after the big riot I joined the 'Burn, Baby, Burn' movement. I did so, not to get even with the white, not because I intended to take over. I just wanted to show him he no longer had his foot on my neck."

The Negro movement is in the process of achieving maturity. Black men need no longer depend upon the good offices of white middle-class liberals. Negroes, as agitators for full equality, are standing on their own feet.

Unfortunately, the original aims of integration may be temporarily eclipsed. The new direction may be down a dark road, with some of their leaders demagogues. "Black Power" is a rallying cry for inchoate mass action, a dark prophecy without a soul.

Zealous white benefactors share the blame for the Black Nationalist rebellion. What hopefully commenced as integration groups often bleached out into white-dominated cliques, with Negroes helping out.

In a movement so fraught with overtones of brotherhood, it would have been appropriate for a predominately Negro organization to encourage Caucasian participation. But too often these devoted but vociferous pale faces, set policies and dominated affairs. In repudiating demonstrations and committee meetings that were often eighty per cent white, many Negroes are sweeping away from any white co-operation.

However, as working-class slaves, the sons of Ham still share a great deal in common with the rest of us. The role that white workers can play in presenting a united front against economic exploitation is at this point obscure. Brotherhood, civil rights, even equality are assuming new, perhaps distorted values. But the old, concrete problems of dilapidated housing, sub-standard wages, driving foremen, and production-for-war instead of production-for-use remain. Black and white must work these problems out together.

— — Dorice McDaniels

### A SCAB OPERATION

Kingsport, Tenn. printing trades workers say, "Don't Buy World Book Encyclopedia." Kingsport Press workers are still out on strike.

If you have been getting this paper free — and you read it — why not become a subscriber?

## World Market

(Continued from page 4)

goods that in turn could be swapped for what Schacht wanted Germany to import.

Far more countries have centrally controlled economies now than in 1931. Even in those countries that pay lip service to Free Enterprise one can expect authorization to some central commission to manipulate foreign trade.

All this tends to create a climate favorable for the growth of the fascist father-figure fantasy — a fantasy projected by the mighty manipulators of communication out of fear that the need for social change has become too obvious, and a fantasy shared by many out of the frustration of their hopes to rise in the world or keep their tenuous hold on some upper rung of the ladder of success.

Any attempt at a nationalistic solution to economic problems tends to encourage fascism, and this set of probabilities all the more so because of the further frustration felt when it is found it will not work.

One Schacht could find an advantage in this system; but the advantage gets cancelled out when the competing economies all try it. There can be no nationalistic way to restore the living standards that preceded the anticipated breakdown of the world market.

We have let the businessmen dominate the situation and to them the problem is to find a market. War has provided a businessman's dream, a market that absorbs much and sells nothing back. But that safety valve is no longer safe, and everyday more and more people know it. Similar but limited markets are offered by throwing hardware into space or drilling holes to explore the earth's interior.

Liberal economists have pointed out that playgrounds and places for free public concerts and other services can also absorb much and sell nothing; and of all patches on the system, these are the prettiest.

If bust follows boom in this world market, we of the working class should insist that the rational approach is world economic planning, and that the planning should be by us of the working class, about what we will do, and not by others about what they will do with us.

We will find that much that passes as economic planning makes little sense. Union heads will have to drop this habit of thinking that some specified rate of growth of the gross national product provides jobs for all and that to maintain this rate of growth is the way to keep us all eating. We will need to recognize that the same increment in gross product in the form of automated equipment will not have the same effect as it would have in the

form of baby carriages.

Of the various safety valves that we can expect pro-capitalist economists to propose, we can go along with the exploration of the universe and the extension of free services, provided certain conditions are established.

Why spend the next depression looking for jobs that do not exist? Why not spend it playing ball, or making and hearing music, or making talk and hearing talk, or looking at the wonders of nature as they dive into the lake or sun themselves afterwards? This time around it should not be too difficult to press for the food and shelter necessary to permit us to enjoy ourselves and each other.

Social services that do not glut the market or hinder the sales of private enterprise will be favored safety valves. But we should not let this become a program of "bread and circuses." We need to fight off such a program all the more because of the built-in tendencies toward fascism.

It is not enough that we be fed and be passively amused. It is far better that we amuse ourselves. There are parks with community buildings where young TV addicts can study drama and practice parts and even make up plays about the things that concern them. If we run out of suitable gathering places we can build more in which to promote the organization and education needed to enable us to make good use of the earth. If we are sufficiently prepared to force our way into the New World, we may be able to march into it singing, guitars and girl friends on our arms, and grins on our faces.

If we are to have a depression why not plan to enjoy it?

## Ind. Worker Needs Your Zip Code Number

According to a directive issued by the Postmaster General, Washington, D.C., it becomes mandatory that after January 1, 1967, all second-class controlled circulation, such as the Industrial Worker, must have the ZIP CODE on all subscriptions and bundle order addresses in order to retain the status of second-class mailing rights.

We therefore, ask our subscribers and bundle order agents whose ZIP CODE we haven't as yet on their address label to furnish us with the same in order that we may comply with this new postal regulation.

### STEELWORKERS AT SCHOOL

Steelworkers Institute conducted jointly by the steelhand's union (AFL-CIO) and a university Industrial Relations Center met Aug. 21-26. One of the topics discussed: Decline in labor union vitality in recent years. . . . Too much professionalism?



## Draft of Letter on War

# IWW APPEALS TO ORGANIZED WORKERS OF ALL LANDS

(PROPOSED AT SEPTEMBER CONFERENCE)

Fellow Workers:

We hope the present situation in Viet Nam will end soon, but when this particular horror has been solved or shelved, what then? Should we not expect a similar horror to follow it soon after somewhere else?

We write to ask that you consider whether labor unions and related movements cannot undertake some more basic action for world peace than can be expected from the representatives of national states.

Consider the relation of our work to the kind of history we make. In large part what happens is the cumulative result of our industrial efforts. The history of this century has been painfully produced by workers, working at the direction of others. We do not like the sort of history we have been making; we do not like the sort of future it portends. But if there is to be a different kind of history, we who produce history with our work must do a different kind of work and do it differently.

This is not a novel aim for labor. Whenever unions ask for a wage increase they are asking indirectly that the work be re-planned. They are asking that their members be allowed to consume some goods or services not previously available to them; and thus they are asking either that unemployed workers be assigned to produce the extra goods, or that labor and resources be re-allocated from some other purpose to meet these new demands.

We urge that this re-allocation of our labor and resources should become a deliberate program, consciously and co-operatively planned by labor, and not left to be an incomplete and indirect adjustment to wage changes. We suggest that this world labor planning can accomplish these results:

1. It can increase bargaining power and raise living standards worldwide.
2. It can alter the daily facts of life and the entire trend of history.
3. It can make the democratic process a substantial fact of daily life.
4. It can alter the frame of reference in which world problems have come to be viewed, and create a chance for problems hitherto insoluble to become soluble—especially the question of peace.
5. It can bring about a world solidarity of labor, potent for good, and a part of workday life.

Not long ago an astronaut remarked as he circled this earth in a little over two hours that it no

longer seemed so vast, but a garden to be cultivated by those who lived on it. The labor movement of the world should adopt that perspective and as a joint enterprise an inventory of material and human resources, an appraisal of what part of man's needs we can hope to fill within the next few years and what re-direction of our labor and resources will work best for our collective good.

This sort of study should be based on engineering and production concepts with as complete disregard as possible for the system of national states. To depict what is technically attainable it should plan production only for the needs of human beings, and not for the armament of national powers.

We propose that the labor movement in all lands, as a co-operative enterprise, launch a study the practical result of which would be an alternative program for doing the world's work. An alternative way to do the world's work is an alternative way for history to go.

Producing a rough flow sheet for a world economy and keeping it up-to-date would do more than give us some interesting facts and figures. It would give us a new look at ourselves, and we could see ourselves as the astronaut saw us. Producing it would create channels of communication among those who do the world's work, and that is something of basic importance.

Our social structures are congruent with the prevailing pat-

terns for channeling communication: primarily pyramids in which the information is passed up to a series of centers from which orders and instructions flow down to us. It is chiefly these impersonal patterns for communication that divide us, and that pit us against each other to compete in peace and to kill in war.

Work on this project would replace these old and fatal patterns with the means for reaching a global understanding to work for each other as free men, knowing what we wanted to do, and doing it. It would change us.

The billion workers without whose daily work the events of yesterday could not have happened, all want peace but, as though they were hypnotized, feel powerless to do anything about it. This sense of powerlessness and of working against ourselves, corrodes us and our work. Work can be planned by those who do it so that it makes sense, so that it does us good, so that doing it is a part of life, not a subtraction from life.

This may sound as a request that conservative labor movements join less conservative unions to sponsor a world revolution. Specifically we are asking all labor bodies in all lands to sponsor and arrange a co-operative economic study. We do have great hopes that indirectly a wide awareness of the results of such a study may yield new patterns of human behaviour, new social and economic arrangements, and a world befitting science in this

atomic era, a world free from hunger and drudgery and the threat of war. We have these great hopes, but we ask that we get together to assemble economic facts.

It is a common experience in collective bargaining to be told that we are asking for more than can be given us. Yet our demands have always been small compared to the changed standard of living we anticipate this study would show as attainable. If that study were made, if it were reviewed by men of known competence, and its results widely publicized, we believe its existence, would greatly improve the collective bargaining situation. These considerations warrant participation by unions that assert their function is restricted to the process of collective bargaining. And if world boom be followed by world depression, if the present way of doing the world's work break down, alternative plans for doing it will be very timely.

We address this proposal to all labor union and related movements in all countries. We request that their periodicals publish and promote it. We believe its serious and widespread consideration can result in the development of those work-based institutions that will prove indispensable for the peaceful development of mankind in the atomic age.

Yours for Industrial Democracy  
THE INDUSTRIAL WORKERS  
OF THE WORLD.

## HILLBILLIES FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

# VILLAGERS FIGHT STRIP MINE DEVESTATION

HEMP HILL, Ky. — Strip mining is about to destroy the water supply of this East Kentucky community and displace the 86 families who live here.

And lawyers say there is no legislation which can stop the mining before the damage is done.

Residents have petitioned the Kentucky Department of Natural Resources to exempt their area from a permit issued to the Virginia-based Greer-Ellison Mining Company, on the grounds that strip mining on the hills behind the town will destroy their only source of water.

The water comes from an abandoned mine which has been dammed up to form a reservoir. It will be destroyed when the miners cut through a small outcrop of coal on the edge of the old mine.

But the strip mining permit has already been issued. And amended strip mining regulations passed last year by the Kentucky legislature contain no provisions to deal with this kind of emergency.

Legal methods which the people

could use to stop the miners are either too expensive or too time-consuming; they say that by the time a suit can be filed and an injunction obtained, the damage would probably be done.

In the three weeks since the company entered the area, bulldozers have destroyed a slope where the people grew vegetables and raised a few chickens and hogs. The area has been transformed into a muddy crater.

The people of Hemp Hill are determined to resist the destruction of their community. For most of them, their three-and four-room houses represent their only savings. They purchased the houses from the Elkhorn Mining Company during the 50's, after the mine closed down.

All but one of the families signed the petition, but few really expect it to succeed.

Because of the financial and legal difficulties of fighting the companies, most mountain communities have offered little resistance when the strip miners moved in. But occasionally the people

decide to fight, and sometimes they win.

In nearby Knott County last year, local people resisted the strip miners. Women sat in front of the bulldozers and were dragged away to jail. Snipers fired at the machinery from the hillsides. The company armored its bulldozers and tried to carry on. But eventually aroused public opinion forced them to agree not to begin strip mining in any new areas in the county.

"We ought to just do like those old women did over yonder in Knott County," said one Hemp Hill woman. "We ought to get our guns and go over there and tell 'em to git. I can shoot a .38. We'll go up and they'll come off in a hurry."

Many people agree. Others would prefer to wait and see the effect of their petition before taking more direct action.

"Whatever we decide to do probably won't do much good unless people outside the county start trying to influence the government," one man said. "We don't have much influence alone."